



KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE

EDUCATION
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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UPDATE ON EMAGCEKENI PRIMARY SCHOOL IN ZULULAND DISTRICT

One of the grave injustices that the KwaZulu-Natal Education Department inherited from the apartheid education system was poor physical educational infrastructure. This is evident in poorly constructed school buildings where learners are forced to receive their education under trees, as well as inappropriate building materials such as mud, and asbestos, etc.

In recognition of this very unfortunate legacy and many others, we resolved to replace mud schools and all other school buildings erected from inappropriate and sub-standard materials. We are not only addressing the issue of classrooms, but are also building administration blocks for school principals and management teams. In addition, we will also ensure to bring essential services such as water, electricity, and decent sanitation.

Over and above, we provide our learners with 21st Century learning tools such as science laboratories, computer labs, nutrition centres, and the media centres amongst others. We are pleased to state that we are permanently changing the landscape of this Province by building state-of-the-art schools.

As it relates to eMagcekeni Primary School, which is situated in KwaNongoma, Zululand District, the school is non-viable with only 87 learners (enrolment) and we had resolved to move these learners to the neighbouring Donguthule Primary School, 2 kilometres away which has plenty of under-utilized classrooms, an intervention which they refused. In the meantime, our infrastructure unit is in the process of providing the school with mobile classrooms.

Our goal is however not only to provide superior facilities, but making learning conditions conducive for today's learners and many generations to come. We are acutely aware that if one wants to overcome poverty, unemployment and inequality, one must invest in the education of a nation. We are certain that as a result of improved infrastructure, and pro-poor interventions, a higher proportion of our children in our Province are going to enjoy learning and being kids.

We are committed to prioritizing schools that have been historically most disadvantaged and are located in the poorest communities, including multi-grade, multiphase, farm and rural schools. We are not only changing the landscape of this Province, but at the heart of our service delivery programme we want to ensure to restore the dignity of our people.

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ISSUED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN KWAZULU-NATAL

GROWING KWAZULU-NATAL TOGETHER

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